

Four Keys for Practicing Faith

Caring Conversations:

Take a few moments to think about your loved one's life. Share words or stories about your loved one – humorous moments, comforting memories... You may also wish to share any worries or fears you have about the days to come.

Devotions:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:1-3 (NIV)

- Share your memories of your loved one's house or room. Are there items that particularly remind you of them?
- Draw a picture or talk about what you think your loved one's room (dwelling place) might look like in heaven. Who else is there? What do you think they do there?
- What are some of the promises God has made in the Bible? Did those promises come true? If God has kept those promises, will he keep his promises to you?

Service:

What are some of the activities your loved one really enjoyed?

- If your loved one was a great cook, use their famous cookie recipe and share them with family members, neighbors or the local fire station.
- If your loved one enjoyed gardening, plant a tree in an area where you can see it often.

• If your loved one spent hours reading, volunteer to read to residents at a nursing home or to kids at a daycare. Pick out a book that your loved one would have enjoyed and donate it to the local library.

Rituals and Traditions:

Pray together:

Precious Lord, we come to you today with heavy hearts and minds. We also come thanking you for the life of (name). Fill us with your Spirit who brings comfort in our grief, strength for the days ahead, and hope of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bless one another saying: "May we go in peace, knowing we are fully surrounded by God's love, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."